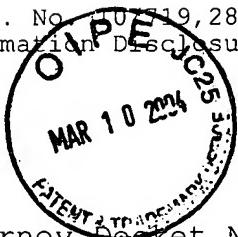


Appln. No. 10/719,284
Information Disclosure Statement dated March 9, 2004



Attorney Docket No. 03627/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Akira FUKUSHIMA

Serial No. : 10/719,284

Filed : November 20, 2003

For : CRAWLER FRAME FOR
CONSTRUCTION MACHINE

Art Unit : 3671

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Confirm. No.: 3180

Customer No.: 01933

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith is a copy of each of the publications identified on attached Patent Office form PTO/SB/08A. An explanation of relevance of the prior art publications is given on the attachment hereto. It is respectfully requested that these publications be considered and made of record.

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS
MAILING**

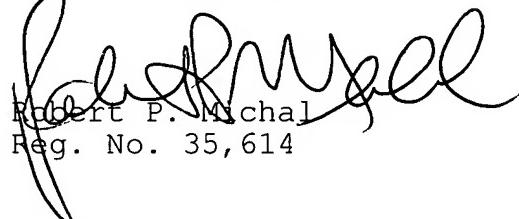
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It is requested that an initialed copy of the form PTO/SB/08A be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert P. Michal
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Dated: March 9, 2004

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Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	10/719,284
				Filing Date	November 20, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Akira FUKUSHIMA
				Group Art Unit	3671
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	03627/LH

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits*	Cite No ¹	Offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
			WO 03/042022 A1		Uruse Kouhei; Sakuma Nobumitsu; Hitachi Construction Machinery	5/22/2003		

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication _____ of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: March 9, 2004



EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE OF WO 03/042022

In the present invention, the top face of the legs are inclined by forming the legs from cast steel, whereas the top face of the legs according to WO03/042022 A1 are inclined, the legs being formed by sheet-metal welding of a steel plate.

With the cast steel structure, the number of parts can be reduced compared with the sheet-metal structure. Also, welding spots can be reduced since there is no complicated weld line, resulting in a significant reduction in the number of processes and processing time.

Further, in the present invention, the parts such as steel plate and the like are less used, resulting in saving of materials.

As the legs being formed from cast steel, the legs having a fine grain without surface roughness in the surface configuration can be obtained, thereby quality of the appearance can be also improved.